

COORDINATIONS GROUP FILE

CONFIDENTIAL

AS 2d CLOS

CONFIDENTIAL 162305Z JAN 79 STAFF

CITE FBIS 07582

TO: FBIS/LONDON INFO FBIS/VIENNA.

cc: C/DRD
C/FCS

REF: FBIS/LONDON 10800

1. REF [] DEVELOPMENTS [] SENT LETTERS TO US DATED 8 DECEMBER AND 21 DECEMBER. THE FORMER ADVANCED THE THEORY THAT TRANSLATIONS BY THE TWO FORMER FBIS EMPLOYEES WERE POOR BECAUSE OF "LINGUISTIC WEAR" (NOT LIVING IN ENGLISH-SPEAKING ENVIRONMENT), ASSERTED THERE ARE NO COORDINATION PROBLEMS, AND STATED HE WOULD BE MAKING RELEVANT PROPOSALS "SHORTLY" TO IMPROVE QUALITY. THE LATTER LETTER PROPOSED THAT ONE OF THE TWO FORMER CCU STAFF MEMBERS BE ASSIGNED TO VIENNA OR CAVERSHAM TO "MAKE UP FOR LINGUISTIC WEAR," AND FBIS WOULD ASSIGN SOMEONE [] FOR TWO YEARS. THERE WAS NO MENTION OF FUNDING.

2. IN A REPLY [] 28 DECEMBER WE STATED THAT THE PROBLEM IS NOT ONE OF "LINGUISTIC WEAR" BUT LACK OF "SUBSTANTIAL EDITORIAL REVIEW" BY A QUALIFIED PERSON. WE STATED THAT IF [] WERE PROPOSING [] COULD FUND A BRITISH OR AMERICAN AS [] EDITOR TO PROVIDE SUCH AN EDITORIAL REVIEW, THIS COULD BE DISCUSSED. WE STATED THAT WE DID NOT BELIEVE ASSIGNMENT OF [] TO AN FBIS BUREAU FOR A TOUR WOULD BE OF VALUE. WE STRESSED THAT FBIS IS NOT INTERESTED IN INVESTING MORE FBIS FUNDING IN THE EXCHANGE. WE SAID THAT WHILE WE DO NOT RULE OUT FURTHER DISCUSSIONS, WE ARE NEVERTHELESS ANXIOUS TO BRING OUR EXCHANGE INTO BETTER BALANCE, AND INDICATED THAT EFFECTIVE 1 FEBRUARY "AND UNTIL THE QUESTION OF AN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE EDITOR IS RESOLVED" THE FILE [] WOULD CONSIST OF BBC-ORIGINATED MATERIAL FILED BY LONDON BUREAU AND PRIORITY AND ABOVE ITEMS FROM THE FBIS MIDDLE EAST FILE.

3. COPIES OF THE ABOVE ARE EN ROUTE TO YOU.

4. NOT INCLINED TO BELIEVE DDP INQUIRY IS RELATED [] SITUATION. BELIEVE SAME PRINCIPLE APPLIES TO BBC SERVICE AS IN THE PAST: WE HAVE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 2 FBIS 07582 CONFIDENTIAL
NO OBJECTION TO BBC PACKAGE INCLUDING FBIS MATERIALS.

5. WE STILL EXPECT TO ADHERE TO PLAN CITED ABOVE TO REDUCE FILE [] TO ABOUT 28,000 WORDS DAILY. WE WILL ADVISE BUREAUS BY ADMIN MESSAGE ABOUT 22 JANUARY IF WE DO NOT HAVE A RESPONSE [] I SUSPECT HE WILL HAVE A COUNTER-PROPOSAL.

6. FCS WILL PROVIDE LIST OF PRESS AGENCIES YOU REQUEST IN PARA. 6. (CALL CONFIDENTIAL) RVW 15JAN99 DRV D9C.3BY []
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL